

October 2006 - December 2006 (Volume 14)





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The last two albums took quite a time to assemble and I have now managed to get all the images into a current file as they are taken so it is relatively easy just to personalise it with appropriate wording etc.

DP just phoned that Angela and he (plus help) have stripped the latest truck (the ex mobile library) putting in two new windows and a fresh water tank so that is progressing well. Their kids are well and I guess that they will be soon moving on from Radford Mill Farm, which I am sure they will agree was a wonderful home. (photo on next page



Larnie is staying with us tonight as Tammy is helping Ben in setting up seating etc at a conference that Ben has arranged in the city. Ben is now on a weekly run to Holland for his bank and has recently returned from New York (where Tammy accompanied him). They have a fascinating, if exhausting, life-style,

The weather is changing now from the recent very dry end of summer to a definite chill in the air. Leaves are changing colour and Lynn has the usual chant for this time of year "don't we turn the heating on now"....- trouble is she is so shy and quietly spoken that I can not quite catch what she is saying.

Larnie has just got a humorous poetry book from the library and she copied one onto the computer. She will play around with the font style and colour and then surround it with images etc. Once that is done she wants to put it up in her room (I hope to be able to get a copy for this book) She is quite efficient on the computer already with a full understanding of the keyboard, various programmes and is an intuitive learner. At this age (7) they are like sponges absorbing so much. She is a delight and we get on very well and the 3 of us have lots of fun together. She is totally at home here and we love having her.











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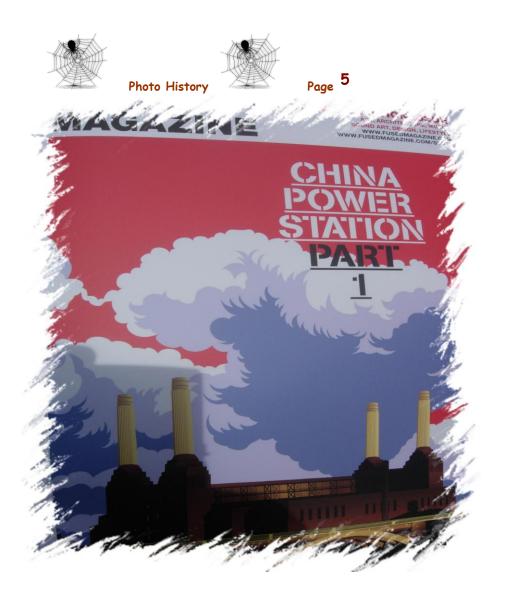
I have just spoken to them and apparently I would not recognise it nowbut I am jumping ahead.





In Oct we heard that The Battersea Power Station which has stood empty and derelict awaiting a decision on its future for years was the setting for a 'way-out' first showing of a Chinese art installation. It would be open under strictly controlled conditions for a short while and then closed for a major rebuild into apartments, shopping mall, offices, art centre etc. What better excuse could we have for snooping and hopefully some great one-off photos. ...despite security guards forbidding photography I like many others studiously ignored them and got some great shots a few of which are here (Lots more in my image files)







The Serpentine Gallery staff

were very knowledgeable and we really enjoyed the day.





They even had free architecture tours but..."No Photos" (sorry we are hard of hearing...........flash...flash went the cameras)



There were mountain bikes around for a quick exploration of the site and a really pricey Japanese sushi café that seemed to have lost its way and certainly was vastly



overpriced for the majority of customers.



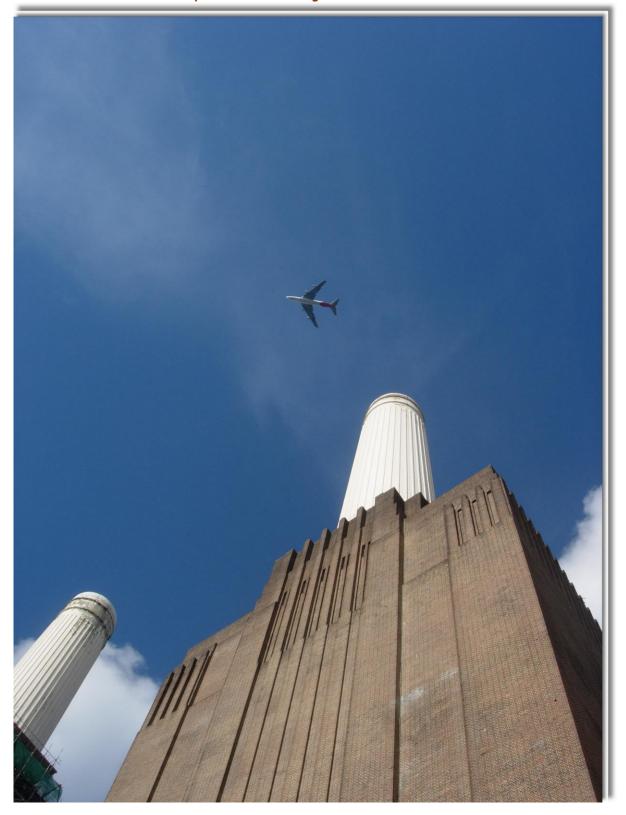


















Later in October a cry for help came from Angela and DP. Could Lynn and I come down to Bath to take care of the kids while they got on with the "Library into home conversion" well we had to really think about that one. Two seconds later we were packed and ready...

We stayed overnight in the great bab in Littlebighampton or something similar. Great four-poster great breakers as always...

Beau has really grown and is really aware. He is communicating well and has quite a good vocabulary and understands everything. Esme Peach (Peachy) is a real smiler and Lynn and I were really happy to take them out. We chose Wookey Hole caves in Somerset for the Saturday. We must have been mad. Caves for two little'ns was not a thought-out I ocation....Dark, wet and uneven floors. What were we thinking of? Luckily the rest of the venue proved more successful with play areas, penny arcades, cafes and loads of child-friendly attractions...saving the day

















They were quite at home with us and we quickly remembered what problems watching two kids was like. Funny how it comes back liked second nature.







No darling Dad is at home...it just looks like him...









The distorting mirrors provided endless fun....















Always a smile for grandad....







Even with the 'red-eyes' a bath was a welcome home 'happening' for the two great kids





these fruits, thistles etc were



















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It rained constantly the following day in Wells but we were prepared and once we had graduated with a masters degree in push chair assembly it miraculously seemed to have stopped raining each time....

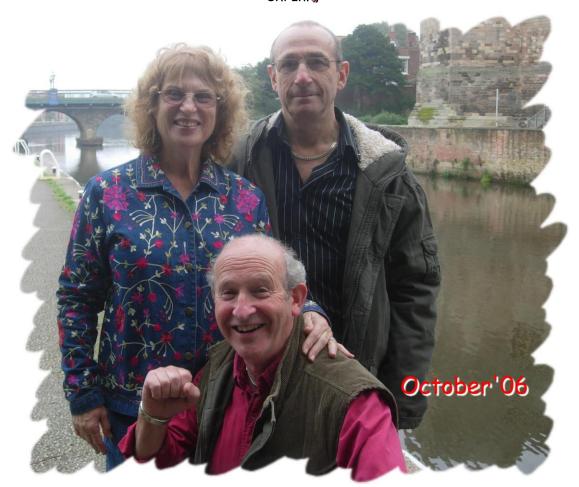


......oh look Grandad has put it together...but no offence I think I'll walk with you Grandma...





We spent a really great weekend with our life-long buddies Martin & Maxine later in October and they certainly seemed to have grown (or maybe I have shrunk)



As always we did not stop laughing and it is always so great seeing them.

Time and distance seem no deterrent to our friendship.























Some shots of a great day in and around Nottingham







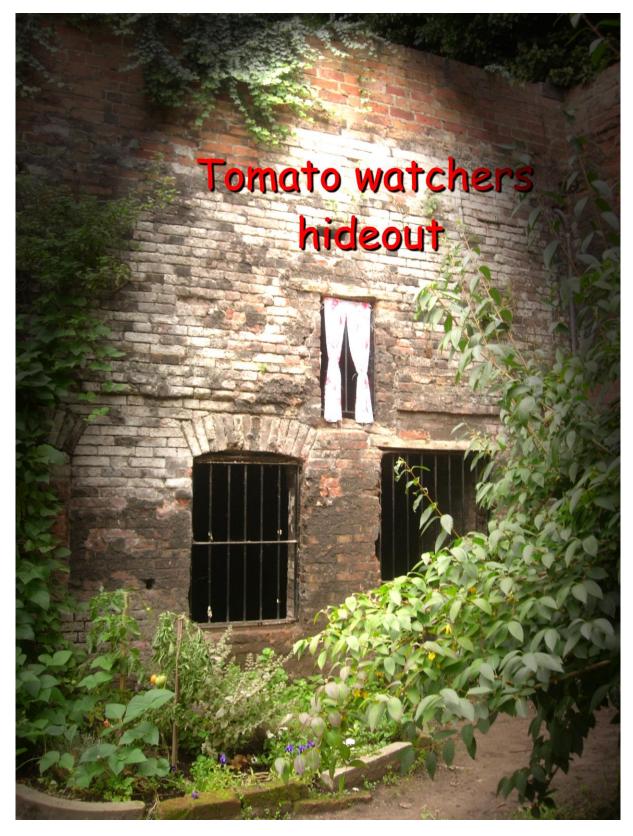
































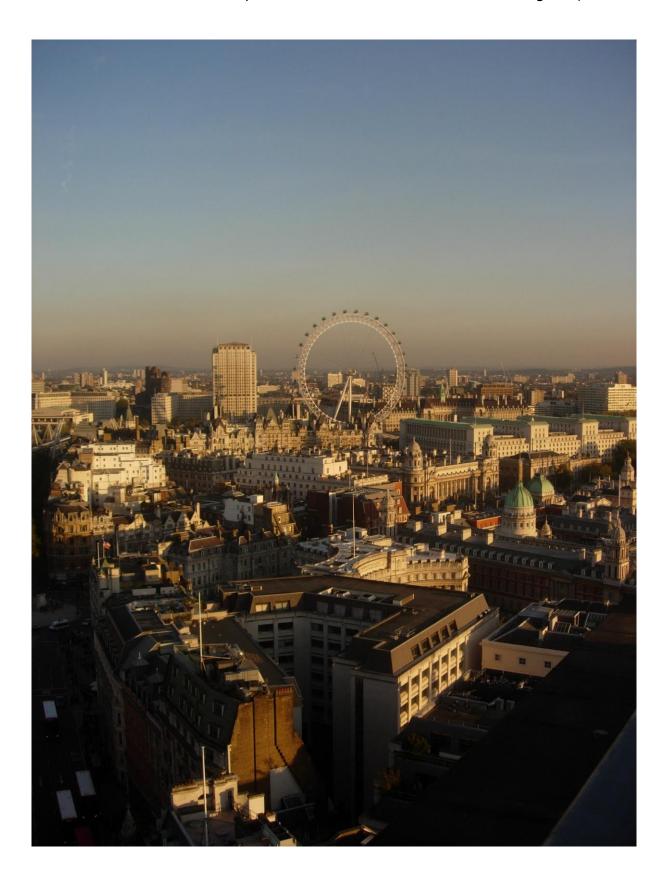




...and I helped to choose the outfit...senile but he still has his uses...

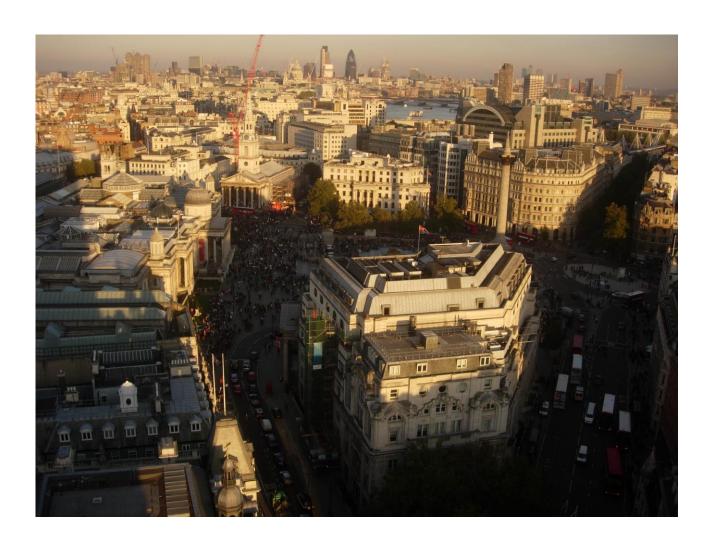


November '06... Views from the penthouse of New Zealand House in Trafalgar Square...



















We always said that Tammy had attitude....the winners of Tammy Attitude were featured in Oxford street window for all to see...so there...Mummy was right!!!





Two Sundays in November spent walking in Whitwebbs Woods allowed Lynn and I to get loads of fungus shots and the following week loads of trees in late sunshine shots. I made two great books of photos dedicating one to each of the kids and I hope they like them.







The warmest late November I can remember.....









As we approach Christmas again it is unusually mild. The news around is of bad education, violence in the streets, the dollar almost two to the pound (bringing gloomy forecasts), house prices and personal borrowings in the UK at an all-time high.
______In short __same as usual_no change

or maybe I am more cynical as I get older.....and on to the next volume